Development of inputs for the benefits of SC|ST in hamlets

*232. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRl ISH DUTT YADAV;

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to Mate;

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to launch . a new programme of education and other development inputs for the benefit of the SC/ST in hamlets having 200 or more of their population;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof stating the names of the States in which such hamlets have been identified;

(c) the nature of the Central assistance proposed to be provided by Government and the share of the State Governments concerned in Implementing the new education programme for the SC/ST; and

(d) the estimated number of SC/ST population in these hamlets likely to be benefited as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER. OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER); (a) to (d) Under the Action Plan in Key Areas for the Development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the Government propose a package of ses.

rvices in 10,000 habitations having 200 or more Scheduled Caste| Scheduled Tribe population (or combination of both) in States having a sizeable SC/ST population, namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh; Maharashtra, Orissa, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

This package of benefits includes(l) setting up a non-formal education centre with a building if there is no primary school in the vicinity; (ii) provision of a handpump/ drinking water source; (HI) street lighting and single point Ught connections to the poorest households under the Kutir Jyoti Programme; (iv) irrigation wells to small and marginal SC/ST farmers who do not have irrigation facilities; and (v) verification and restoration of possession of Iand holdings wherever required, etc.

The process of identification of 10,000 habitations in these 10 States is under way. The State Governments have been requested to take expeditious action to ensure that all the components ln the package included in the Action Plan are provided early.

Cent percent assistance wlil be provided to the State Governments under the programme.

The number of SCs/STs likeiy to be benefited by this programme is estimated to be at least 20 lakhs.

Discussion with Soviet President on Pakistani proposal regarding Afghan problem

*233. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATl VEENA VERMA;

Wil] the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tne Prime Minister discussed a Pakistani proposal for the solution of the Afghan problem with the Soviet President at the. instance of UN Secretary General and whether it wa$ found "incomplete"; it so, what were the details of the proposal and how was it incomplete; and

(b) whether the Prime Ministerdiscussed this proposal further with tho Pakistani Prime Minister during his recent visit to Islamabad; if so, what was the reaction of Pak Prime Minister ln the matter?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO); (a) No, Sir; there was no specific proposal requiring such a discussion.

(b) Ouestion does not arise.